

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/755,546

Applicant(s)

HUET ET AL.

Examiner

Zoila E. Cabrera

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment of 9/28/05 and Interview of 10/26/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-5, 11, 12, 17, 19 and 20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/28/05</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rick Barnes on October 26, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-2 and 6-10.

Please enter claims 11-12, 17, 19-20 as attached on a separate page herein.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "of claim 1" and insert - - of claim 11 --.

Claim 4, line 1, delete "of claim 1" and insert - - of claim 11 --.

Claim 5, line 1, delete "of claim 1" and insert - - of claim 11 --.

Claim 11, line 8, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Claim 11, line 15, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Claim 11, line 22, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Claim 17, line 16, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Claim 17, line 23, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Claim 17, line 30, delete "bonding" and insert - - bounding - -.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 3-5, 11-12, 17, 19-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The allowability of the claims resides, at least in part, that the closest prior art of record **Dor (US 6,701,259)** does not disclose or suggest, alone or in combination, the step of:

Regarding independent claims 11 and 17, **enclosing groups of the defects within bounding boxes with different sizes to determine whether a given group of defects defines a given extended object, even though the size of the bounding box surrounding the given group of defects is different than the size of other bounding boxes surrounding other groups of defects that have also been defined as the given extended object, enclosing groups of defects within bounding boxes with different orientations to determine whether a given group of defects defines a given extended object, even though the orientation of the bounding box surrounding the given group of defects is different than the orientation of the other bounding boxes surrounding other groups of defects that have also been defined as the given extended object, and enclosing groups of the defects within bounding boxes with a different degree of overlap to determine whether a given group of defects defines a given extended object, even though the degree of overlap of the bounding box surrounding the given group of defects is different than the degree of overlap of other bounding boxes surrounding other groups of defects that have also been defined as the given extended object, in combination with the other elements and features of the claimed invention.**

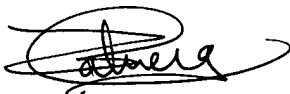
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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zoila E. Cabrera whose telephone number is 571-272-3738. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST (every other Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard, can be reached on (571) 2723749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.



Zoila Cabrera
Patent Examiner
October 28, 2005